(d) According to the procedure contained in Section 34 of the TRAI Act, to impose a penalty on service providers for violation of QoS,TRAI has to file a complaint before a Magistrate who will try the case. Further, Section 29 provides a maximum penalty of Rs. 1 Lakh for the first offence which the Magistrate can impose on the erring operators. In order to speed up the process, the TRAI has submitted a recommendation to the Government on 7th October, 2005.

Internet and E-mail facilities in the Post Offices

†932. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that post offices in rural and backward tribal areas of the country have been provided with computer and internet facilities;

(b) if so, the State-wise details thereof;

(c) whether Government have found out the reasons for non-distribution of mail within a given time; if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government have prepared any action plan to equip all post offices across the country with the e-mail facility and by when the action plan is likely to be implemented in all the post offices across the country alongwith the factual details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) 1046 Post Offices in rural and backward tribal areas of the country have been provided with computer facilities. 73 of these Post Offices have internet facilities.

(b) The State-wise details of Post Offices in rural and backward tribal areas having computer and internet facilities are given in the Statement (See below).

(c) Transmission of mail depends on air, rail and surface transport. Incidents of delayed delivery of letters at times are due to cancellation/ late running of trains and state transport buses carrying mail, mis-sending of mail, incomplete and illegible addresses, incorrect PIN codes, handling of heavy seasonal mail during festival periods and change in residence of the addresses without intimation to the Post offices concerned.

†Original notice of question was received in Hindi

(d) Department of Posts has introduced e-Post service, which enables costomers to receive and send e-mail messages through Post Offices even if they may not be having physical access to computers. An e-Post message can be booked from any Post Office in the country. Such messages are transmitted through 771 e-Post nodal centres. The transmitted messages are downloaded at the e-Post nodal centres and then physically delivered to the addresses through concerned delivery Post Offices.

Statement

State- wise list of Post Offices (Rural & Tribal) having Internet and E-mail facilities

SI. No.	Name of the Postal Circle	Total No. of Post Offices (Rural & Trib provided with Computer facilities	No. of Post Offices al) (Rural & Tribal) provided with Internet facilities
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6	-
2.	Assam	12	3
3.	Bihar	4	-
4.	Chhattisgarh	7	5
5.	Delhi	-	-
6.	Gujarat	8	6
7.	Haryana	29	-
8.	Himachal Pradesh	48	4
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	3	-
10.	Jharkhand	37	16
11.	Karnataka	25	-
12.	Kerala	298	4
13.	Madhya Pradesh	4	-
14.	Maharashtra & Goa	205	1
15.	North East*	-	-
16.	Orissa	37	12
17.	Punjab	82	-
18.	Rajasthan	42	6

1 2	3	4
19. Tamil Nadu	133	16
20. Uttar Pradesh	-	-
21. Uttaranchal	51	-
22. West Bengal & Sikkim	15	-
TOTAL	1046	73

* North East Circle comprises Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Manipur, Wfeoram, Nagaland and Tripura.

NB: More Post Offices in various States, including U.P. will be taken up for computerization in this financial year subject to availability of fund and approval of the competent authority.

Innovation in the field of communication and I.T.

933. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are following and implementing the innovation in the field of Communication and Information Technology;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government is encouraging innovative technologies in the field of Communication and Information Technologies. It has been supporting Research and Development in identifield thrust areas. It has also set up organizations to undertake Innovations, Research, Design and Development in identified areas in a focused manner. With the support-of Government, Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) is working on innovative telecommunication technologies.

(c) Does not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.